ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES.

OF THE

FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Salem Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

Second Baptist Church, at Troy, Ala.,

—ON—

SATURDAY, THE 3RD DAY OF OCTOBER, 1885.

TROY, ALA.:
W. J. Blan, Publisher Troy Messenger.
1885.

MINUTES.

The Forty-seventh Session of the SALEM BAPTIST ASSOCIATION convened with the Second Baptist Church at Troy, Ala., on Saturday, the 3d day of October, 1885.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder William Pritchett, of the Centennial Association.

At 1:30 P. M. the messengers assembled, and were called to order by the former Moderator, Bro. T. J. Carlisle. After reading the 27th Psalm, and singing an appropriate hymn, Elder W. C. T. Mosely led in prayer.

Bros. Josiah Jernigan and W. A. Cumbie read the letters from the churches.

The election for officers resulted in the choice of Elder W. A. WHIPPLE, Moderator; W. B. DARBY, Clerk; and JOSIAH JERNIGAN, Treasurer—brethren W. W. Evans, of the Centennial, T. G. Blackman, of the Newton, and W. C. Jordan, of the Eufaula, acting as tellers.

On vacating the Chair, Bro. Carlisle delivered an impressive, touching and sublime valediction, which, amid tears, was appropriately responded to by the Moderator-elect.

A call for correspondence was responded to as follows:

From the Pea River—W. C. T. Mosely.

From the Centennial—H. Crawley, William Pritchett, W. W. Evans and W. H. Searcy.

From the Newton—T. G. Blackman.

From the Eufaula—W. C. Jordan.

The hours for meeting and adjourning were fixed so as to meet at 8:30 A. M. and adjourn at 12 M.; reassemble at 1:30 P. M. and adjourn at will.

The Moderator announced the following committees:

On Preaching—W. C. Sanders, pastor and messengers of Troy Second Church.

On Finance—T. K. Mullin, J. C. Shirley and J. E. Ray.

On Sabbath Schools—B. H. Ryder, J. W. Smith and C. N. Mallett.

On Bible Cause—J. J. Macon, John Mills and David Youngblood.

On Periodicals—Josiah Jernigan, John Ivey and W. G. Mulkey.

On Missions—E. M. Brooks, A. H. Jones and J. W. Head.

On Temperance—B. H. Ryder, Isaac Mills and Wheat Lewis.
On Nominations—G. W. L. Parkman, J. W. Barron and W. A. Barber.
On Education—W. C. Sanders, J. C. Hurley and W. H. Cole.
On Documents—D. B. Mills, E. Taylor and J. M Wilkes.

A call for agents was answered as follows: To represent the State Board—W. C. T. Mosely; Home Mission Work—J. J. Macon; Colportage—William Pritchett and T. J. Carlisle; *Alabama Baptist*—W. A. Cumbie and W. C. T. Mosely; and for the *Tennessee Baptist* and *Kind Words*—W. W. Evans and T. H. Mullin.

By request, Bros. J. E. Ray and J. C. Shirley were granted leave of absence.

CORRESPONDENCE RETURNED.

To Eufaula—W. A. Whipple.
To Newton—D. C. Allen, L. G. McLendon and J. Blackman.
To Pea River—D. C. Allen.
To Centennial—C. N. Mallett and E. Taylor.

On motion, the body adjourned.

MONDAY'S SESSION.

The body called to order by the Moderator. Prayer by Elder N. C. Underwood. Roll called and absentees marked.

The rule was suspended, and Hepzibah's letter read by the Clerk; also the Constitution, Decorum and Abstract of Faith were read and approved.

Former Treasurer submitted his report, which was read and referred to Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The special committee appointed last year to re-district the Association submitted the following:

First District—Good Hope, Lebanon, Mount Moriah, Sharon, Harmony and Mount Pleasant.
Second District—Troy Second, Ebenezer, Bethel, Providence and Hepzibah.
Third District—Bethlehem, St. Johns, Spring Hill and Union.
Fourth District—Bethel New, New Harmony, Chapel Hill and Helicon.

Received and adopted.

Committee appointed to visit Ebenezer reported that they were satisfied from information received that the trouble was of a delicate nature, and would likely subside without interference.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Temperance is total abstinence from all intoxicants. We can no more tolerate the moderate use of intoxicants than we can moderate indulgence in any other growing sin. One drink of whiskey is intemperance, when taken as a beverage. We call upon our churches to show their faithfulness to Christ and themselves by exercising a godly discipline to put down the making, selling and use of ardent spirits as a beverage. Much has been said and written on this subject, and your Committee could add line upon line, and precept upon precept, but feel it wholly unnecessary. We simply iterate our profound gratitude to God for the advance that has been made in the temperance cause within our State and country during the last year.

Respectfully submitted. B. H. Ryder, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

From the information received through the letters, we regretfully report a very little interest manifested by some of the churches in this grand cause. We therefore earnestly recommend every church in our Association to at once organize this great enterprise, for the purpose of training up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. We are taught by the scriptures to train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Your Committee request the pastors to present this great work to their churches, and work on persistently until every church has a Sunday School. Respectfully submitted. B. H. Ryder, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We, your Committee, report that we find—

1st. A request for letter of dismission from Mount Zion, Barbour county.

2d. An invitation for your next session from Spring Hill Church.

District Meetings —First District—No meeting appointed. Second District —No meeting appointed. Third District—At St. John's, to begin on Friday before the first Sunday in July next. Fourth District—At Chapel Hill, to begin on Friday before the third Sunday in July next.

Respectfully submitted. D. B. Mills, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

Your Committee beg leave to report: We believe the Bible to be the light of the world; that it should be read first of all our reading. We deem the *Alabama Baptist*, *Tennessee Baptist*, *Ford's Christian Repository*, and *Kind Words*, for the Sunday School, all eminently worthy of our support and patronage, and would recommend that every Baptist in the Association subscribe for and read some of our religious journals.

Respectfully submitted. Josiah Jernigan, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON BIBLE CAUSE.

We report, that notwithstanding the energy and efforts of the churches, some destitution still exists. But the great trouble to overcome is the indisposition on the part of the people to read the Bible. Our ministry should by every means impress this necessity upon all.

To supply the destitution in our bounds, money should be raised by the Association, and placed in the hands of some competent brother, with instructions to buy Bibles and Testaments from the Baptist Publication Society for sale and distribution among the needy.

Respectfully submitted. J. J. Macon, *Chairman.*

Adjourned for dinner.

EVENING SESSION.

Prayer by Elder W. C. T. Mosely.

Bro. J. W. Head asked leave of absence. Granted.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee beg leave to report: The Mission cause is the cause of Christianity, If we are Christians, we are missionaries. Then it is our duty and high privilege to support the cause of Christ by our prayers and contributions. The time has come when more should be done for this grand cause. A great deal has been accomplished, and still the demands upon us are urgent. Let us be aroused from our lethargy and work diligently and faithfully in the cause of the Master. See T M. Bailey's Circular for further information, and remember, "God loves a cheerful giver." By all means let's strive to do more. Respectfully submitted. E. M. Brooks, *Chairman.*

Pending the adoption of the above, Bros. Mosely and Underwood spoke of the need, and logically reminded us of our duty and obligation, and a handsome contribution was raised.

Clerk.

On motion, the Executive Committee will apportion the funds asked for by Bro. T. M. Bailey for his work, among the churches.

Reports resumed.

NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee submit the following:

To preach the Introductory Sermon next year—Elder W. A. Whipple; alternate, J. J. Macon.

Messengers to the State Convention—J. C. Moore, W. C. Sanders, W. B. Darby, T. K. Mullin, H. B. Clark, Josiah Jernigan, W. A. Whipple, John Ivey, W. W. Thrasher, and G. W. Stanley.

Executive Committee—W. C. Sanders, H. B. Clark, J. J. Macon, W. A. Whipple, and J. C. Moore.

Sunday School District Superintendents for the ensuing year—1st District, W. W. Thrasher; 2nd District, G. N. Stanley; 3rd District, W. B. Darby; 4th District, W. H. Nix; and for the Association at large, W. A. Whipple.

Respectfully submitted. G. W. L. Parkman, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Education, not ignorance, is bliss—therefore we, as an Association, ought by all means to foster the moral and literary advancement of our people generally. In order to do this, we again call your attention to the following resolutions, found on page 9, Minutes of 1883.

Resolved 1st, That we will patronize to the utmost of our ability, the Public Schools, and also, that we will use our best efforts to have our Public School system corrected, if necessary.

Resolved 2nd, That in order to secure a higher grade of instruction, we recommend our people to patronize liberally Howard College, and Judson Female Institute at Marion, and Central Female College at Tuskaloosa, Ala.

We earnestly recommend the adoption and practice of these resolutions.

Respectfully, W. C. Sanders, *Chairman.*

Bro. James Linsey, from Harmony Church, reported and was received.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

A call for aid to build a Church-house at Geneva, Ala., from Bro. W. D. Wood, and through W. A. Cumbie, was responded to by a contribution of $6.75.

Bro. D. C. Allen read the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this body are tendered to the brethren, sisters, and friends of the "Troy Second" for the kind and generous hospitality extended to us during our sojourn in their midst.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to report, that they have examined the former Treasurer's report and find it correct, and also report the following:

Received for Minutes	$ 41 20
Received for Mexican Missions	17 75
For State, including Sunday's contribution	25 23
For Home Missions, including amount received of former Treasurer.	9 45
For Foreign Missions	65
For Bible Work (Domestic)	2 85
For Church at Geneva	6 75
For Elder E. M. Brooks (Paid to him)	10 00
Total paid Treasurer	$113 88

All of which is respectfully submitted. T. K. MULLIN, *Chairman.*

On motion, adjourned till after services to-night.

NIGHT SESSION.

PREACHING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Introductory—Elder Wm. Pritchett—1st Peter i and 11th verse.
Saturday Night—Elder D. C. Allen—Psalms xxvii and 10th verse.
Sunday, 11 A. M.—"Second Baptist," Elder W. A. Whipple—Heb. ii and 9th verse.
Sunday, 11 A. M.—"First Baptist," Elder Wm. Pritchett—Acts xvi and 17th verse.
Sunday, 11 A. M.—"Methodist," Elder W. C. T. Mosely—St. John xxix and 10th verse.
Sunday, 7:30 P. M.—"Second Baptist," Elder W. A. Cumbie—Tim. iv and 2nd verse.
Monday, 7:30 P. M.—"Second Baptist," Elder N. C. Underwood—2nd Samuel ix and 1st verse.

Minutes read and adopted.

On motion, the Salem Association adjourned to meet with the Church at Spring Hill, on Saturday before the first Sabbath in October, 1886.

While singing a beautiful and appropriate Hymn, the "parting hand" was taken, and the session closed with prayer by Elder J. J. Macon.

W. A. WHIPPLE, *Moderator.*

W. B. DARBY, *Clerk.*

NOTE.—We desire to notice Bro. Ryder's "Evergreen Sunday School," of the Troy Second Baptist Church. If good singing is an evidence, he certainly has a banner School, and from the training manifested by the School, all was complimentary to Bro. Ryder, his teachers and his classes. Several of the ministers present lectured the School, and complimented it very highly for proficiency. As to myself, I was perfectly delighted with the exercises. Let others do likewise. CLERK.

LIST OF MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFICE.

W. A. Whipple, Troy.
A. Black, Troy.
W. J. McBride, Troy.
Thomas Rowe. Troy.
J. J. Macon, Troy.
J. L. Youngblood, Troy.
E. Y. Van Hoose, Troy.
E. M. Brooks, Brundidge.
D. C. Allen, Brundidge.
B. H. Ryder, ——.
G. G. McLendon, Henderson.
F. L. Loard, Goshen Hill.
W. A. Cumbie, Troy.

LICENTIATES.

J. H. Stevens, Troy.
John Ivey, Indian Branch.
H. B. Clark, Troy.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Delivery of Introductory Sermon
2. Call for and read the letters from the churches.
3. Organize by election of officers.
4. Call for letters from churches desiring to unite with this body.
5. Appoint committees on Preaching and Finance.
6. Appoint the hours for meeting and adjourning.
7. Call for correspondents.
8. Call for agents of missions and other objects of benevolence; invite ministers of our order to seats with us, and renew the call each morning.
9. Appoint committees on Sabbath Schools, Documents, Bible Cause, Periodicals, Missions, Temperance, Nominations, and Education.
10. Read minutes, call and correct roll of messengers.
11. Report of Treasurer.
12. Appoint correspondents.
13. Call for reports of committees appointed under the 9th rule above in order of their appointment.
14. Call for miscellaneous business.
15. Call for report of Finance Committee.
16. Arrange for printing and distributing the minutes, and paying the Clerk.
17. Read and approve the minutes.
18. Adjourn.

CONSTITUTION.

We, the committee appointed to sever the Constitution from the Decorum, and to revise both, have performed the work to the best of our ability, and present the following report:

Article 1. This body shall be known as the Salem Baptist Association.

Art. 2. The Association shall be composed of the members present, chosen by the churches in our union to represent them.

Art. 3. The members so chosen shall present letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the number in fellowship, baptized, received, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and died since the last session of the Association. Also, a statement of the amount of funds sent up by the church, and for what purpose, and any other contribution made during the year.

Art. 4. This Association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall each perform the duties usually incumbent upon such officers. They shall be elected by ballot.

Art. 5. This Association shall have an Executive Committee composed of five members, who shall be nominated at each session by the Committee of Nominations, and elected by the Association in adopting the report of said committee. The Executive Committee shall have power to do, and shall perform, all such duties as are usually imposed on such committees.

Art. 6. This Association shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor do any act by which she can infringe upon any of the internal right of the churches.

Art. 7. If a church desires to be admitted into this union she shall petition by letter and messengers; and, if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly, she may be received by unanimous vote, and such reception shall be manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to her representatives.

Art. 8. Every church in this Association shall be entitled to two representatives till her number of members reaches fifty; she shall then be entitled to three, and one for each additional fifty or fractional part thereof.

Art. 9. Any church may ask advice of the Association as an advisory council; but the advice given shall not be considered authoritative in matters where the peace of the church is involved.

Art. 10. It shall be the business of this Association—

1. To provide for the general union of the churches.

2. To keep up a correspondence with other Associations of the same faith and order, that the chain of communication may be preserved among the churches.

3. To advise churches in matters of difficulty; and if the communication between any of the churches in this Association be broken, to inquire into the cause of the breach and endeavor to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be made up, to withdraw from any church which may be unsound in doctrine or disorderly in practice until she be reclaimed.

4. To endeavor by earnest efforts to advance the cause of Education, Sabbath Schools and Missions by co-operation with the State Convention and the Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention: in a word, to use her best endeavors to advance the Kingdom of our blessed Master at home and abroad.

Art. 11. The Articles of Faith, with proof texts, as found in the minutes of this Association for the year 1857, together with this Constitution and the following Decorum shall be printed in the minutes on every fourth year, and the same, *i. e.*, the Articles of Faith, Constitution and Decorum, shall be read at each session of the Association, immediately after the election of officers.

Art. 10. This Constitution (except Art. 6, which shall never be changed) may be amended by presenting the proposed amendment in writing, which shall lie on the table till the next annual session of the Association, when it shall be adopted if a majority of the messengers present vote for the same.

DECORUM.

Article 1. All who speak in debate shall rise and address the Moderator in a respectful manner, and shall not be interrupted while speaking unless out of order.

Art. 2. No one shall speak more than three times on the same subject without permission of the Moderator.

Art. 3. The Moderator may take part in any discussion: but before he can do so he must call some brother to preside during such discussion.

Art. 4. No talking, whispering or other confusion shall be permitted while a brother is speaking, nor shall any reflection be cast upon the speaker.

Art. 5. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the body; should he do so, his name may be stricken from the list of representatives.

Art. 6. Should any member violate this Decorum he shall be immediately reproved by the Moderator.

Art. 7. No speaker shall use harsh or insulting language of any brother, or any language improper in a Christian assembly.

Art. 8. This Decorum may be changed at any session by a majority of the representatives present.

T. H. Stout, J. L Youngblood, J. P. Wood, James C. Moore, } Commit'e.

ABSTRACT OF FAITH,

WITH PROOF TEXTS.

Article I. We believe in one only true and living God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and these three are one.

Proof—Exodus, xx 1, 2, 3: And God spake all these words saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Isaiah, xlvi. 9: Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me.—ix. 6: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Matthew, xxviii. 19: Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Mark, xii. 32: And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he. 1 Timothy, ii. 5: For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. James, ii. 19: Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well; the devils also believe, and tremble. John, i. 1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.—i. 4: In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

—i. 5: And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehendeth it not.—i. 23: He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias.—x 30: I and my Father are one. 1 John, v. 7: For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

Art. II. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Proof—2 Samuel, xxiii. 2: The Spirit of the Lord spake by me, and his word was in my tongue. Acts, i. 16: Men and brethren, this scripture must need have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus. 2. Timothy, iii. 16, 17: All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Peter i 21: For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Art. III. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.

Proof—Isaiah, xli. 8, 9: But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend. Thou whom I have taken from the ends of the earth, and called thee from the chief men thereof, and said unto thee, Thou are my servant; I have chosen thee, and not cast thee away. Jeremiah, xxi. 3: The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee. Acts, xiii. 48: And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord, and as many as were ordained to eternal life, believed. Romans, viii. 29, 30: For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the first-born among many brethren. Moreover, whom he did predestinate, them he also called; and whom he called, them he also justified; and whom he justified, them he also glorified.—ix. 11, 12: (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God, according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;) It was said unto her, the elder shall serve the younger.—ix. 23: And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory.—xi. 27: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins. Ephesians, i. 4, 5: According as he hath chosen us in him, before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.—i. 11: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will. 1 Peter, i. 2: Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.

Art. 4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Proof—Genesis, vi. 5, 6, 7, 8: And God saw that the wickednesss of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.—viii. 21: And the Lord smelleth a sweet savour; and the Lord said in his heart, I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I have done. Isaiah, i. 5, 6: Why should ye be sticken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no

soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrefying sores; they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither molified with ointment. Psalms, xiv. 1, 2, 3: The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are altogether become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Matthew, xv. 18, 19, 20: But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies; These are the things which defile a man; but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man. Romans, 1. 28, 32: And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient. Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity, whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenant breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful; Who, knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death; not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.—vi. 23: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.—v. 12: Wherefore as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

Art. V. We believe in man's incapacity to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by any exertion of his own free will.

Proof—Job, ix 2, 3: I know it is so of a truth; but how should man be just with God? If he will contend with him he cannot answer him one of a thousand. Jermiah, xiii. 23: Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil. John, vi. 44, 45: No man can come to me except the Father which hath sent me draw him; and I will raise him up at the last day. It was written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me. Romans, xi. 6: And if by grace then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works then is it no more grace; otherwise work is no more work. Ephesians, ii. 1, 9: And you hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins. Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience. Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lust of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature the children of wrath even as others. But God who is rich in mercy for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ; (by grace ye are saved), And hath raised us up together, and hath made us sit together in heavenly places, in Christ Jesus, That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness towards us, through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; Not of works, lest any man should boast. Galatians, ii. 16: Let no man therefore judge you in meat or in drink or in respect of a holy day, or of a new moon or of the Sabbath days.

Art. VI. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the *imputed* righteousness of Jesus Christ.

Proof—Isaiah, li. 4, 8: Hearken unto me, my people, and give ear unto me, O my nation! for a law shall proceed from me, and I will make my judgment to rest for a light of the people. My righteousness is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; the isles shall wait

upon me, and on mine arm shall they trust. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be forever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished. Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings. For the moth shall eat them up like a garment, and the worm shall eat them like wool: but my righteousness shall be forever, and my salvation from generation to generation.—xlv. 24: Surely, shall one say, In the Lord have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.—lxi. 3-10: To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called Trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord that he might be glorified. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolation of many generations. And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien shall be your ploughmen and vinedressers. But ye shall be named the Priests of the Lord: men shall call you the Ministers of our God; ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves. For your shame ye shall have double; and for confusion they shall rejoice in their portion; therefore in their land they shall possess the double: everlasting joy shall be unto them. For I the Lord love judgment, I hate robbery for burnt offering; and I will direct their work in truth, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. And their seed shall be known among the Gentiles, and their offspring among the people; all that see them shall acknowledge them, that they are the seed which the Lord hath blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in My God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels. Jeremiah, xxiii. 6: In his days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely: and this is the name whereby he shall be called, The Lord our Righteousness.—li. 10: The Lord hath brought forth our righteousness: come, and let us declare in Zion the work of the Lord our God. Acts, iv. 11, 12: This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is their salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Romans, iii. 21-26: But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifest, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God, which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all, and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference. For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation, through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past through the forbearance of God. To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness; that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.—iv. 5: But to him that worketh not, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.—iv. 16: Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all.—iv. 25: Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.—v. 6: For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.—v. 8-11: But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son; much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not

only so, but we also joy in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.—v. 21: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life, by Jesus Christ our Lord. II. Corinthians. v. 21: For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. Ephesians. i. 7: In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace. Colossians. i. 13, 14: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkuess, and hath translated us unto the Kingdom of his dear Son, In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins. Revelation. i 5: And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the Prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

Art. VII. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Proof.—I. Corinthians, ii. 10, 11, 12: But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit, for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of man, save the spirit of man which is in him, even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God: that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. II. Corinthians, ii. 10; To whom ye forgave anything, I forgive also; for if I forgave anything, to whom I forgave it, for your sakes forgave I it in the person of Christ.—iv. 6: For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts. to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. John vi. 27: All that the Father giveth me, shall come to me, and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out Ephesians, ii. 1, 2: And you hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and in sins Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.—ii. 4: But God who is rich in mercy for his great love wherewith he loved us.—ii. 2. 5. 6: Even when we were dead in sins hath quickened us together with Christ; (by grace ye are saved), And hath raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places, in Christ Jesus.—ii. 9, 10: Not of works lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. II. Timothy, i. 9: Who hath saved us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world begun. Colossians, i. 11-13: Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and long suffering with joyfulness. Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light. Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son. Titus, iii, 4-7: But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly, through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Art. VIII. We believe that saints shall persevere in grace, *and never finally fall away.*

Proof.—Deuteronomy, xxxiii. 3: Yea he loved the people: all his saints are in thy hand: and they sat down at thy feet; every one shall receive of thy words. Canticles. viii. 6, 7: Set me as a seal upon thy heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as the grave; the coals thereof are coals of fire, which hath a most vehement flame. Many

waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it; if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would be utterly contemned. John, x. 28-30: And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any pluck them out of my hand. My Father which gave them me, is greater than all; and none is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.—vi. 37: All that the Father giveth me, shall come to me; and him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out.—vi. 54: Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. I. Corinthians, ii. 10-12: Same as in "Proof to Article 7th. II. Corinthians, ii. 10: Same as in "Proof" to Article 7th. Ephesians, ii. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10: Same as in "Proof" to Article 7th II Timothy, i. 9: Same as in "Proof" to Article 7th. Titus, iii. 4-7—Same as in "Proof" to Article 7th. Colossians, i. 11-13: Same.

Art. IX. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances of Jesus Christ; that true believers are the only subjects for these ordinances, and that immersion only is baptism.

Proof.—Matthew iii. 5, 12: Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the region round about Jordan. And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance; And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father; for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees; therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance; but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear; he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire. Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. Mark, i. 5: And there went out unto him all the land of Judea and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. Luke, iii. 7, 8: Then said he to the multitude that came forth to be baptized of him, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore, fruits worthy of repentance, and begin not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father; for I say unto you, That God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. John, iii. 23: And John also was baptizing in Enon, near to Salem, because there was much water there: and they came and were baptized. Acts, ii, 38: Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.—ii. 41, 42: Then they that gladly received his word, were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers. Romans, vi. 3, 4: Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ, were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Colossians, ii. 12: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. I. Peter, iii. 21: The like figure whereunto even baptism, doth also now save us, (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Acts, viii. 38: And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the Eunuch; and he baptized him.—xviii. 8: And Crispus, the chief ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his house: and many of the Corinthians hearing, believed, and were baptized.

Art. X. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment.

Proof.—Job, xix. 25, 27: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me. Daniel, xii. 2: And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Hosea, xiii. 14; I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plague, O grave, I will be thy destruction; repentance shall be hid from mine eyes. Mark, xii. 24–27: And Jesus answering, said unto them, Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the Scriptures, neither the power of God? For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven. And as touching the dead, that they rise: have ye not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush God spake unto him, saying I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob! He is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living: ye therefore do greatly err. I. Corinthians, xv. chapter entire. II. Corinthians, v. 10: For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in the body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Art. XI. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and that the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

Proof.—Matthew, xxv. 46; And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. II. Thessalonians, i. 9: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power. Revelation, vii. 14–17: And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said unto me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the Throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

Art. XII. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel, except one who has been regularly called and ordained to the work by the imposition of hands of a Presbytery.

Proof.—Acts, xiii. 2, 3: As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul, for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. I. Timothy, iv. 5: For it is sanctified by the word of God, and prayer.—v. 22: Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: Keep thyself pure. Hebrews, v. 4: And no man taketh honor unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF THE CHURCHES FOR 1885.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST-OFFICES.	Received by Baptism.	Received by Letter.	Received by Voucher.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total Membership.	For Minutes.	MISSIONS. AMOUNT MADE UP DURING SESSION, INCLUDING THE AMOUNT SENT UP BY CHURCHES. For State Board.	Home Missions.	Mexican Mission.	Bible Cause.	Foreign Missions.	Indigent Ministers
FIRST DISTRICT.																		
Good Hope	J. J. Macon	John Mills	Troy	0	1	0	0	2	1	1	72	$ 2 00						
Lebanon	J. L. Youngblood	W. T. Green	Troy	0	0	0	0	11	0	0	19	1 00						
Mount Moriah	J. S. Yarbrough	C. N. Mallett	Curry	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	24	1 00						
Sharon	Not represented																	
Harmony	"																	
Mount Pleasant	"																	
SECOND DISTRICT.																		
Troy Second	B. H. Ryder	Josiah Jernigan	Troy	1	3	0	0	21	2	0	69	2 00						
Ebenezer	R. H. Chesser	W. P. Chancellor	Linnwood	1	0	0	1	7	1	0	82	70						
Bethel	F. A. Jackson	W. G. Mulkey	Troy	2	8	0	2	4	0	2	77	1 90						
Providence	D. C. Allen	G. W. L. Parkman	Troy	11	6	0	0	4	0	1	65	2 00						
Hepzibah	J. J. Macon	J. T. Sanders	Troy	2	6	0	1	5	0	0	58	2 00						
THIRD DISTRICT.																		
Bethlehem	W. A. Whipple	J. E. Ray	Flemington	0	3	0	0	7	2	0	36	1 50						
St. Johns	John Bradley	U. S. Fuller	Flemington	4	0	0	0	0	3	0	64	2 00						
Spring Hill	J. J. Macon	F. W. Law	Milo	6	4	0	0	3	2	0	99	3 00						
Union	W. A. Whipple	W. B. Howard	Henderson	0	0	0	0	12	1	1	59	2 00						
FOURTH DISTRICT.																		
Bethel New	Not represented		Providence															
New Harmony	J. E. Kolb	John H. Nixon	Goshen Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	1 00						
Chapel Hill	D. C. Allen	S. W. Shirley	Indian Branch	8	3	0	0	5	0	1	63	2 50						
Helicon	Not represented		Helicon															
				41	34	0	4	81	13	6	821	$23 70	$25 23	$9 45	$17 75	$2 85	65c	$10 00
			Total made up at the session									17 50						
												$41 20						